

# State of Utah DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING



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INSPECTION REPORT

Partial:\_

Complete: X

Exploration:\_

Inspection Date & Time: <u>August 17, 1999, 12:50 to 4:00 PM</u>

Date of Last Inspection: July 23, 1999

Mine Name: <u>Hiawatha Complex</u> County: <u>Carbon</u> Permit Number: <u>ACT/007/011</u>

Permittee and/or Operator's Name: <u>Hiawatha Coal Company</u> Business Address: <u>P. O. Box 1202</u>, <u>Huntington</u>, <u>Utah 84528</u>

Type of Mining Activity: Underground X Surface Prep. Plant Other\_

State Officials(s): Paul Baker

Company Official(s): Alden Gustafson

Federal Official(s): None

Weather Conditions: Partly cloudy, 80's

Existing Acreage: Permitted-12707 Disturbed-290 Regraded- Seeded- Bonded-290 Increased/Decreased: Permitted-0 Disturbed-0 Regraded-0 Seeded-0 Bonded-0 Status: \_Exploration/\_X\_Active/\_Inactive/\_Temporary Cessation/\_Bond Forfeiture Reclamation (\_Phase I/\_Phase II/\_Final Bond Release/\_Liability\_Year)

# REVIEW OF PERMIT, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS & PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENTS

## Instructions

- 1. Substantiate the elements on this inspection by checking the appropriate performance standard.
  - a. For <u>complete inspections</u> provide narrative justification for any elements not fully inspected unless element is not appropriate to the site, in which case check N/A.
  - b. For partial inspections check only the elements evaluated.
- 2. Document any noncompliance situation by referencing the NOV issued at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
- 3. Reference any narratives written in conjunction with this inspection at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
- 4. Provide a brief status report for all pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments.

|     |   | EVALUATED        | N/A        | COMMENTS | NOV/ENF        |
|-----|---|------------------|------------|----------|----------------|
| 1.  | PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE        | [X]              |            | [X]      |                |
| 2.  | SIGNS AND MARKERS                               | ĺΧÌ              | П          |          | 11             |
| 3.  | TOPSOIL   | ĺΧÌ              | Π̈         | ΪXΊ      | 11             |
| 4.  | HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:                             | 17.21            |            | IVEL     |                |
| a.  | DIVERSIONS                                      | [X]              | Ц          | Ц        | Ц              |
| b.  | SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS                 | ĺΧΙ              | Π          |          | П              |
| c.  | OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES                 | [X]              | Ħ          | 苴        | []             |
| d.  | WATER MONITORING                                | ĺΧÌ              | П          | Π̈       | 17             |
| e.  | EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS                            | <u>[X]</u>       | Π          | П        |                |
| 5.  | EXPLOSIVES                                      |                  | ΪΧΊ        | Π        | Ħ              |
| 6.  | DISPOSAL OF EXCESS SPOIL/FILLS/BENCHES          | Ï                | [X]        | ij       |                |
| 7.  | COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS       | ΪXÌ              |            | ij       | Ħ              |
| 8.  | NONCOAL WASTE                                   | X                | Π          | Π̈́      | fi             |
| 9.  | PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND                | 1121             |            | <b>-</b> |                |
|     | RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES                    | [X]              | $\Box$     | Ц        | ſΊ             |
| 10. | SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE                         |                  | ΪXΊ        | Π̈       | $\Box$         |
| 11. | CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION                     | ΪΧΊ              | []         | ក        | Ħ              |
| 12. | BACKFILLING AND GRADING                         | [X]<br>[X]       |            |          | []<br>[]<br>[] |
| 13. | REVEGETATION                                    | $\overline{[X]}$ | Π          | ΪΧΊ      | Ħ              |
| 14. | SUBSIDENCE CONTROL                              | $\overline{X}$   | Ti .       |          | Ħ              |
| 15. | CESSATION OF OPERATIONS                         | Π̈́              | ΪXΙ        | Π̈́      | ij             |
| 16. | ROADS:  |                  |            |          |                |
| a.  | CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/SURFACING              | [X]              | <b>[</b> ] | n        | <b>[ ]</b>     |
|     | DRAINAGE CONTROLS                               | X                | īī         | ii ii    | Π              |
| 17. | OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES                 | $\overline{[X]}$ | Ħ          | n        | ñ              |
| 18. | SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS        | ΙXΙ              | Ti .       |          | ii i           |
| 19. | AVS CHECK (4th Quarter-April, May, June)_(date) | Π                | Ti .       | i i      | Ħ              |
| 20. | AIR QUALITY PERMIT                              | ΪXI              | ii         |          |                |
| 21. | BONDING & INSURANCE                             | ĺΧÌ              |            | ii       | Ħ              |

### INSPECTION REPORT

(Continuation sheet)

Page <u>2</u> of <u>2</u>

PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/011

DATE OF INSPECTION: August 17, 1999

# (Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

1. Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale

The response to Division Order 97A is due August 23, 1999.

The response to Division Order 99A was due August 20, 1999, but the Division has received a request to extend the deadline.

# 3. Topsoil

According to Mr. Gustafson, there is as much as four feet of soil covering refuse on the northeast side of refuse pile 4. There is a little refuse on the surface in this area, and the soil being used had some coal fines in it.

# 4. Hydrologic Balance

a. Diversions

The ditch around the northeast side of refuse pile 4 has been regraded.

### 13. Revegetation

On the reclaimed portion of slurry pond 5 between the areas reclaimed in 1997 and 1998, there is a gully about 18 inches deep. It appears there are two factors that have contributed to formation of this gully. First, different surface preparation techniques were used in the two areas, and the water tends to run along the edge between them. Second, there has been enough rain for water to break through some of the gouges on the 1998 reclaimed area, and, once this happens, lower gouges tend to fail. Although vegetation is progressing nicely in the gouged area, it has not yet had time to fully stabilize this area. This gully needs to be repaired.

I remain concerned about vegetation on areas reclaimed in 1997. Most of the vegetation I see in these areas is Russian thistle.

Musk thistle plants that were on slurry pond 5 have been eliminated. Many of the musk thistle plants in Middle Fork were sprayed, but some of these plants had already set seed. Controlling thistle at this mine will be a major task for at least the next few years.

We walked through the topsoil borrow area east of refuse pile 4. Vegetation in parts of this area is doing very well; however, the vegetation in other areas, while apparently established and containing few weeds, does not appear to have as much cover or production as I would expect. I have not taken quantitative measurements; these are strictly general observations. A violation was written in 1994 for taking too much soil from this area, and this could be the cause. I plan to discuss the situation with a soil scientist to see if he/she has recommendations for remedial action.

Copy of this Report:

Mailed to: Elliott Finley (Hiawatha Coal Co.), James Fulton (OSM)

Given to: Pamela Grubaugh Littig (DOGM)

Inspector's Signature: Raul B. Baker #41 Date: August 23, 1999